THE
U.F.A.
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE UNITED FARMERS of ALBERTA

Vol. II. CALGARY, ALBERTA, APRIL 16, 1923. No. 7

Parliament Enquires Into the Condition of Canadian Agriculture

By Robert Gardiner, M.P.

Information of vital interest to the farmers of Western Canada has been presented during the present session of Parliament before the Special Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into Agricultural Conditions. In this issue Robert Gardiner, M.P. for Medicine Hat, who is the Alberta representative on the Committee, outlines the scope of the inquiry and discusses much of the important evidence. It is shown that ocean freight rates are determined in large measure by "gentlemen's agreements" between shipping companies, and that the Government Merchant Marine is a party to these agreements. It is shown that flour made from Canadian wheat is sold more cheaply in Great Britain than in Canada; and that Wiltshire sides from Canadian hogs are cheaper in England than in the Dominion. Of special interest is a statement prepared by the University of Manitoba, showing that in 1922 the average cost of producing a bushel of wheat, in three different areas in Manitoba, was considerably higher in every case than the prices received by the farmers for their wheat last fall. Mr. Gardiner is chairman of the U.F.A. members in the House of Commons. Since the inquiry into agricultural conditions began, his time has been almost entirely devoted to the work of the Committee.

It will no doubt be of interest to the readers of "The U. F. A." to hear something of the work of the Special Committee appointed by Parliament to enquire into agricultural conditions. In the speech from the throne the attention of Parliament was directed to the adverse conditions under which agriculture is labouring, notwithstanding the abundant crops harvested in the greater portion of Canada last year.

SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION

The Committee subsequently appointed is composed of ten Liberals, five Progressives and four Conservatives, with Mr. A. R. McMaster of Brome as chairman. The chairman suggested the following subjects as meriting enquiry:

(1). The present condition of agriculture; (a) In the Maritime Provinces; (b) In Ontario and Quebec; (c) In the Prairie Provinces; (d) In British Columbia.

(2). The causes of those conditions. Where the conditions are unfavourable, an examination into remedies, including better methods of marketing, the lowering of production costs, and the developing of the beef, bacon and dairy industries, etc.

(3). The cause of the difference between the prices of agricultural products paid to the producer, and the ultimate cost of the same to the consumer.

(4). The relation of prices of commodities purchased by agricultural producers, and the prices obtained by such producers for their own products.

(5). The banking and financial resources and credits of the country as affecting agricultural producers, with an examination into the various systems of rural credits in this and other countries.

(6). The marketing and transportation facilities of the country in respect to agricultural products, with a special investigation into the merits and demerits of co-operative buying and selling, and including an examination into alleged abuses connected with the mixing of grain in elevators.

GRAIN TRADE ENQUIRY.

The Committee discussed the advisability of enquiring into the grain trade, and it was pointed out that the last commission of enquiry appointed by the Federal Government in 1921 was stopped by injunction, and although this injunction was later set aside by a higher Court, a still later judgment held that portions of the Grain Act were ultra vires, and for that reason a thorough enquiry by this Committee was essential, inasmuch as no injunction could be issued against it. The Committee realized that if it made a thorough enquiry into the grain trade, it would take all the time at its disposal for this session. Realizing that the House had already passed a resolution in favor of such an enquiry, the Committee recommended to the House that the co-operation of the Provincial Governments interested be invited, even to the extent that the Legislatures of the Provinces might pass such enabling legislation as lay within their power, to the end that a commission vested with Federal and Provincial authority could make the fullest investigation without fear of being stopped by injunction. Parliament accepted the recommendations and the Provincial Governments have no doubt received an invitation to co-operate. (*) This investigation to be of any value must be thorough.

The clerk of the committee was authorized and instructed to request the Grain Commissioners to—

(1) Prepare a statement showing grades in and out of each of the private terminal elevators since sample market legislation came into force, up to the end of August, 1922, and to furnish same to the Committee by March 1st, 1923.

(2) A statement of the quantity of tough and damp grain received by each of the private terminal elevators and the quantity dried by each elevator.

(3) A statement of the amount of grain graded out and transferred from each of the private terminal elevators by rail to public terminal elevators at the head of the lakes.

This information will be of great interest to Western grain growers, showing as it will the number of bushels of each grade going in, and after mixing, the number of bushels and the grades going out.

The opening of the British market to stocker cattle on April 1st, is creating

(Continued on page 8)

ROBERT GARDINER, M.P.

* The Provincial Governments most concerned have signified their willingness to co-operate. Action to this end was taken in the Alberta Legislature recently.

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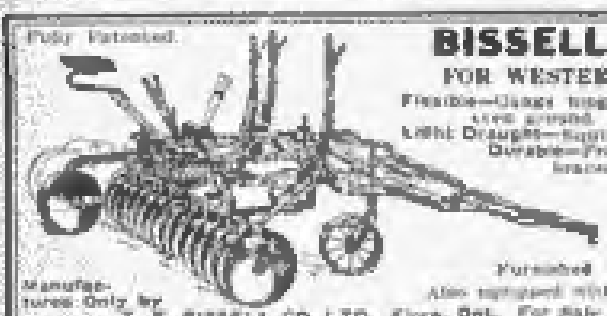

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Alberta members of the House of Commons have been successful in obtaining a Parliamentary Inquiry into the Basis, Function and Control of Financial Credit. It is expected that Henry Ford, among other prominent advocates of Credit Reform, will give evidence. The outcome of this inquiry will have a vital bearing upon the re-establishment of farming and of industry in Canada.

If the present Credit Inquiry in Canada is to be productive of results, the U. F. A. Members at Ottawa must have the active support of an intelligent and informed electorate. Every member of the U. F. A. should be familiar with the best available literature on Credit Reform. A complete list of books and pamphlets, ranging in price from five cents to $2.25, may be obtained from Central Office. Among these are the following:

"Credit-Power and Democracy", by Major C. H. Douglas. Price $1.75.

"The New Economics", by Cumberland and Harrison. Price $1.75.

"These Present Discontents", by Major Douglas. Price 30 cents.

"Dividends for All". An explanation of the Douglas scheme, by W. Allen Young. Price 15 cents.

"The Control and Distribution of Production", by Major C. H. Douglas. Price $2.25.

"Nationalization of Credit", by George Darlington. Price 5 cents.

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Average paid circulation
Six months ending March 1.....21,[illegible]

THE U.F.A.

Published on the 1st and 16th of the Month by
THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA
Loughead Building
CALGARY : ALBERTA
Editor: W. NORMAN SMITH
Business Manager: M. HIGGINBOTHAM

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Vol. 3. CALGARY, ALBERTA, APRIL 16, 1923 No. 7

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EDITORIAL

Notable figures illustrating the decline in the purchasing power of farmers' produce in recent years were given in the House of Commons, in the debate on the immigration estimates, by G. G. Coote, the member for Maclead. Mr. Coote submitted statistics obtained from a wholesale implement house, on the prevailing prices for farm implements in October of 1912 and 1922, and also gave the prevailing average prices of wheat at Cayley, Alberta, during the same periods.

"In 1912," he said, "a gang plow could have been purchased for 142 bushels of wheat; in 1922 it would take 210 bushels. A single disc-drill, 20-run, could have been purchased for 142 bushels of wheat; in 1922 it would take 210 bushels. An 8-foot binder could have been purchased in 1912 for 264 bushels; in 1922 it would take 386 bushels. A Moline wagon and triple box could have been purchased in 1912 for 158 bushels; in 1922 it would have cost 256 bushels. Taking the total number of bushels to purchase these implements, we find in 1912 it would require 784 bushels, whereas in 1922 the amount would be increased to 1,153 bushels."

Mr. Coote also cited figures showing that, whereas in November, 1913, prime butcher steers weighing 8,340 pounds would be required to purchase all of these implements, in November, 1922, the weight needed would have been 19,831 pounds. If the price of cows were used the comparison would be much more startling. In 1914, he indicated, 2,775 bushels of rye would purchase a separator with 40-inch cylinder, while in 1922 no less than 4,445 bushels would have been required. The sales tax of 2% per cent, which has been in force for two years, is not included in the above costs. If it had been included the disparity between purchasing power in 1914 and in 1922 would have been shown to be considerably more serious.

It is improbable that these facts will be used by the immigration agents who are, to use the felicitous expression of the Canadian Colonization Association, "drumming up" settlers for Western Canada, but neither the prospective immigrants nor the Dominion of Canada will in the long run profit by suppression of the truth.

There is one sound immigration policy for Canada at the present time. It is the removal of the artificial handicaps under which agriculture is suffering, handicaps due to the tariff, to high transportation costs, and defects in the financial and credit system which have made possible the impoverishment of the farmers and of the great bulk of the producers in North America, through the process of deflation inaugurated by powerful financial interests.

Until tolerable conditions have been created for the farming population of Canada, expensive immigration policies cannot permanently benefit the Dominion, though such policies will doubtless be beneficial to certain interests. They will be beneficial also to the efficient real estate agents of the Canadian Colonization Association who are to receive ten per cent per acre for all lands sold to immigrant farmers, whom the company, assisted by a generous Government, proposes to "drum up".

* * *

If the Canadian Colonization Association succeeds in "drumming up" 200 families for settlement in Western Canada in ten months, it will receive from the Government of Canada no less than $500 per family, according to the proposals of Hon. Charles Stewart, Acting Minister of Colonization and Immigration. Many families who have left Alberta during the past winter would have remained on their farms had they seen any prospect of realizing from the results of their farming operations as large a sum as the Government proposes to spend to replace them. Unfortunately the Government has already subsidized this Company to the extent of $49,000, and its intention is to contribute $10,000 a month of the taxpayers' money to the company's funds for ten months.

* * *

An interesting light on the Fascisti revolution in Italy is shed by A. Vergnanini, chief Italian representative on the Central Committee of the International Co-operative Alliance, in a recent article in "Co-operation." "The persistent attacks, encroachments, acts of violence, massacre of hundreds of our best men, burning of property, devastation and pillage which have been experienced in nearly all our provinces," he says, "and the large number of wounded and refugees, have brought about an indescribably grave and threatening situation. Co-operative societies which have been violently suppressed can be counted by the hundred."

The Fascisti are a revolutionary party who overthrew constituted authority by force in Italy, in the interests of reaction. Col. Dorsey of the United States military establishment, has recently been advising the American Legion, a returned soldiers' organization, that they may shortly be required to perform the Fascisti role. He gives as his reason the election to Congress last fall of a large number of members with whom he does not agree, some of them being progressive Republicans and some progressive Democrats. In Alberta a retired Italian naval officer, in an article published in the press, commends the movement to Canadians. There is no danger of a Fascisti movement thriving in the atmosphere of Canada, where it would be no more welcome than the Ku Klux Klan, but as it is spreading in parts of Europe, its significance to the co-operative movement there is worth noting. All despatches from Italy are strictly censored.

The revolutionary methods by which reaction has become seated in the saddle in Italy are condoned by the greater part of the press, both in Great Britain and in North America, and the new revolutionary government was immediately recognized by the Western Powers. The statesmanship of Mussolini, the revolutionary leader who defied the constitution of Italy, and overthrew its government by force, is in many newspapers highly praised. In view of these facts, the revelations of the International Co-operative Alliance are of peculiar value. Fascismo, which under various names is spreading to several European countries and is apparently seeking to gain a foothold in North America, is one of the sinister forces threatening society. Its power for evil is increased by its abuse of the sentiment of patriotism, and by the apparent approval of its methods by a large portion of our press.

* * *

Farm journals which endeavor to promote discord between the farmers' and other progressive groups are performing a serious disservice to agriculture. To foster ill-will between progressive groups is the surest way to assist reaction.

* * *

Party politicians, a portion of the daily press, and some agricultural journals, are endeavoring to foster ill-will between the organized farmers and the forces of organized

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Close the Gate of the Paddock First

Immigration Policy Should Aim First to Hold Settlers Already Here, State Majority of U. F. A. Members in Commons.

In view of the intense interest which has been aroused among members of the organization by the debate in Parliament on the immigration estimates, "The U.F.A." publishes in this issue brief extracts from the speeches of the eleven U.F.A. representatives who participated. Almost all of these members vigorously opposed the Government's policy of increasing expenditure on immigration at the present time, and attacked the proposal to subsidize the Canadian Colonization Association. W. C. Good, farmer member for Brant, J. S. Woodsworth, Labor member for Winnipeg, Miss Macphail, farmer member for South East Grey, were also among the leading critics of the Government's policy. At the close of the main debate, H. E. Spencer, U.F.A. member for Battle River, moved a reduction of the vote for salaries for outside services, to the same figure as last year. This was defeated, and the Government sustained. The Hon. Charles Stewart, Acting Minister of Immigration and Colonization had, however, asked that the vote affecting the Colonization company be allowed to stand over for the present, and as this paper goes to press the issue is not settled.

It is regretted that only brief paragraphs can be given from the various speeches. The members are quoted below in the order in which they spoke.

William Irvine, East Calgary.

"I submit that a colonization scheme should be devised to settle our vacant lands close to railroads. How are we going to settle immigrants who come here with very little money on lands that are close to railways? The high-priced lands, somehow or other, have been secured by favored individuals in this country. The hon. minister said that he thought approximately $1,500 would be a very fair beginning for an immigrant to settle upon the land. How far would $1,500 go in purchasing land valued at the lowest possible price at $20 per acre, some of it as high as $50 per acre very near a railroad? How is that immigrant going to begin to pay high interest charges on his purchase, to equip himself with the implements necessary for farming, and to feed himself for at least a year? He will have to look for work in the city to pay interest charges on the farm which he will never be able to own. Some scheme must be found to free our land for the use, first of all, of the people who are here now landless; and secondly for those who may subsequently be brought in." Mr. Irvine opposed the increased estimates.

D. M. Kennedy, West Edmonton

Mr. Kennedy vigorously opposed the proposed grant to the Canadian Colonization Company, devoting the greater part of his speech to a criticism of this project. He said in part:

"The reason I am opposed to spending money to drum up settlers at the present time is that we can get the same results by retaining the settlers we have already, if we are able to give them the railway facilities they so urgently require. I believe also that if the industries of Canada would be willing in hard times to assume their share of the sacrifice with the industry of agriculture, even to the extent of going without dividends when farmers all over the country were operating at a loss, we should have a better country and be able to assimilate all the good immigrants we could bring in from the United States, Great Britain and elsewhere."

> In the debate on the immigration estimates in the House of Commons, H. E. Spencer compared the Government's present immigration policy to that of a horse dealer who turned his purchases into a large paddock of which the gate was left open, and as horses escaped through the gate, tried to make up the deficiency by buying more horses. Almost all of the Alberta members vigorously opposed the present policy. Attention was called to the necessity of relieving agriculture of its present burdens by lowering the tariff, lowering transportation costs, and by the inauguration of necessary financial reforms.

E. J. Garland, Bow River

"I am absolutely in favor of immigration that is purely voluntary and absolutely selected . . . In my opinion there is no use spending money lavishly to bring people to this country when those already here cannot make a living." Referring to a member of the House who had suggested that "the peasant from southeastern Europe who will dig himself into a hole or live in a sod shack", is the man Canada wants, Mr. Garland remarked that even this settler was as badly off in Canada as the rest, and pointed out that "the West has made and will make this change in him: he no longer is content to work from 4 o'clock in the morning until dark . . . in a short time he joins the U. F. A. Local and learns why he is where he is and who are making profits from his labor; then he ceases to be the pleasant kind of peasant that those who now control things would bring in here to debase agriculture."

Alfred Speakman, Red Deer

"What is the remedy offered by some of our friends? Immigration. That means that when you have a leaky barrel, one with a hole knocked in the bottom, you are going to fill it by continually pouring in more water regardless of how fast it is running out. It has been pointed out by some honorable members that as long as there is this enormous demand in the States, our people will keep going to the States, and apparently their only remedy is that we shall pump immigrants into Canada who will pass on to the south until the United States is saturated, and then the residue may remain here. I contend that that is a most absurd policy. We cannot afford to assist in bringing in immigrants if they are simply to use Canada as a sort of calling place on their way to the States . . . I believe this country could support five and ten times the population it has at the present time . . . but until we have a policy of retention to go hand-in-hand with the policy of immigration, an immigration policy is suicidal."

D. F. Kellner, East Edmonton

"I think there are unquestionably two immigration policies before the people of Canada today. One is a policy which declares, although agriculture is in an impoverished condition: We will establish a certain number of farmers and we will keep them on these farms as long as we can; and when the task becomes hopeless they will leave and we will get another group to take their place. Ever changing and ever shifting we will go from one strata of society to another until eventually we will reach the lowest. The other policy contemplates a prosperous farming community, and that is what the group that sits in this corner of the chamber considers we are entitled to. We are convinced that if a man works ten, twenty, thirty or forty

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Planning Co-operative Marketing, Huxley to Grainger District

Plebiscite of District Will Be Taken—Trochu Cream Shipping Plan Makes Progress

The creation of a Co-operative Marketing Association with a five year contract somewhat after the Pincher Creek plan, was recommended by the convention of the Huxley to Grainger U.F.A. District Association at a meeting at Swalwell on March 26th. The association will take a plebiscite of the whole district from Huxley to Grainger, to ascertain the opinion of all farmers upon this proposal. A special committee was formed for the purpose of carrying out the necessary arrangements for the plebiscite and for the creation of the association.

The Five Years' Contract

This decision followed a discussion of the prospectus of the Trochu Co-operative Cream Shipping Association. The district association favored the Trochu co-operative venture; realized that Trochu was on the way to a working organization, but at the same time thought that the one season's contract was a weakness. The Trochu committee's answer was that the cream shipping association is the forerunner of a bigger marketing organization; that for the present the committee's aim was to form a small association, so that the farmers will gain confidence in their own co-operative power. To have asked for a five years' contract, it was contended, would have meant delay, while they felt confident that after the first season the Trochu Association would be in a position to go forward on a five years' contract basis.

The convention was addressed by W. D. Trego, on the aims of the Corn Growers' Association, and by A. B. Claypool, M.L.A., on the problems facing the Provincial Government.

A resolution was unanimously carried asking the Provincial Government to secure the services of Mr. Aaron Sapiro to assist in the formation of a co-operative wheat pool. The convention was attended by about seventy members. L. E. Hart presided.

Trochu Co-operators' Progress.

Very encouraging answers have been received from the creameries, in response to inquiries by the committee of the Trochu Co-operative Cream Shipping Association, according to a letter received from Mrs. Ruth Dickinson, who con-

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Farmers Seek New Land Contracts With Canadian Pacific Railway

Settlers of Three Alberta Districts Ask New Terms for Payment of Principal, and Cancellation of Accrued Interest.

Settlers of the Hussar, Wintering Hills and Wayne districts occupying C. P. R. lands, have requested the Department of Natural Resources of the company to cancel all accrued interest in respect to payments for these lands, and to enter into new contracts, the farmers paying no interest for three years, except on arrears of payment on principal. It is recommended that the first annual payment under the proposed new arrangement shall not fall due until April 1st, 1925. The settlers suggest that all payments of principal in arrears shall bear 6 per cent interest until liquidated, and that all other interest charges shall be cancelled until 1925.

Have Faith in Future Recovery

These proposals, the adoption of which is urged as a means of preventing further migration of settlers, and of enabling those who remain to make good, were submitted in writing to a representative of the Department of Natural Resources in Calgary a few days ago, by a representative committee appointed by the farmers of the districts concerned. In a letter addressed to P. L. Naismith, manager of the Department, it is stated that matters have reached such an acute stage that farmers can no longer meet their current obligations, while "there appears to be no immediate prospect of better conditions." On the other hand the farmers have to a man, "faith in ultimate recovery from present conditions," and believe that "the natural farming advantages here found will eventually ensure success and a prosperous community if the farmers be given immediate relief and some encouragement to stick."

In the meantime, the letter sets forth, "the farmers are organizing for the purpose of obtaining such relief as will enable them to stay, to meet their obligations and improve their conditions in such a way as will allow the coming generation to claim a part of their heritage as farmers in this Province." In their effort to attain these objectives, the letter continues, "we believe that we have the sympathy of the entire staff of your Department."

The Farmers' Case in Detail

The committee then presents in detail, for the consideration of the company, much important information concerning the prevailing conditions among the farmers. The information submitted is summarized below. It reads:

"1. The land is priced too high. This is evident from the fact that most of the farmers of the district are not able to meet their interest—nor instalments.

"When the settlers moved into this district conditions were not normal. At that time eight bushels of wheat paid the principal and five bushels of wheat paid the interest on an acre of land, while at present it takes 20 bushels of wheat to pay the principal and 13 bushels of wheat to pay the interest.

"2. Local banks are advancing the farmers their operating expenses in order to keep them in the district. The fact that numbers of the best farmers have moved away and that others are

> Farmers of the Hussar, Wintering Hills and Wayne Districts, in a letter to the Department of Natural Resources of the C.P.R. published on this page, set forth the case for a revision of their contracts, owing to the prevailing conditions of agriculture.

going, sacrificing their equipment at ruinous prices, shows that at present farming conditions are unbearable.

"3. The fact that farmers, under the best advice of their bankers and the Canadian Pacific Railway, have gone into mixed farming and have watched the bottom drop out of cattle and horses, poultry, eggs, butter, as well as grains, and are now watching it drop out of hogs and every other thing that they own, is disheartening.

"4. The fact that in most cases cattle and horses are a liability and not an asset, and the value of the liquid resources (upon which banks loan money to farmers) has almost entirely disappeared, is disheartening.

"5. The fact that farmers cannot dispose of their land contracts for cash without standing tremendous losses, is disheartening.

"6. The fact that this land has not provided a living for enlightened people for millions of years, and that the present farmers tilling the soil in this district are the first who ever tried to wrestle a living from it, and so far their efforts have met with no marked success.

"7. The hardships encountered from lack of schools and education and association for the children, if prolonged, will leave them eventually on a mental plane not much higher than the Indian.

High Priced Sentiment

"8. The fact that wages are increasing daily in other industries and that prices of lumber, sugar, and almost all goods produced by manufacture are prohibitive, and still increasing, teaches the farmer that his labor can be sold elsewhere to better advantage, and that the sentiment and affection which keeps him with his stock is costing him several hundred dollars yearly.

"9. The fact that millions of acres of land in the Western Provinces which were settled by homestead and pre-emption, and upon which thousands of homesteaders spent the accumulated savings of a life-time, are now abandoned. There are hundreds of instances where Canadian Pacific Railway lands have been abandoned under similar conditions. These instances can be made individual cases with full particulars if necessary.

"10. The fact that dozens of farmers in this district have openly declared their intention of allowing their contracts to be cancelled. These men cannot pay out on their land without suffering a heavy loss. Names can be given and full particulars.

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Our Wheat Marketing Problem

By A. C. Johnstone, Second Vice-President Red Deer U. F. A. Federal District Association

While the Canadian farmer is continuously confronted with the problem of marketing the general products of his farm in such a manner as will insure to him the greatest percentage of the consumer's dollar consistent with his (the consumer's) ability to purchase, the greatest difficulty is encountered when undertaking intelligently and scientifically to market a Western Canadian wheat crop.

As a result of our activities and the ability of our organization, through its central body, to broadcast authoritative knowledge, no one surely can gainsay the statement, "that the time has arrived when the farmers as a body of wheat producers must tackle this marketing problem themselves." It is unfair and exhibits short-sightedness to be continuously imposing obligations upon elected and representative bodies, such as municipalities and Governments when, with sane guidance, we could undertake to solve these problems ourselves and when once these problems are solved by ourselves, no power on earth could stampede us.

Loss of Many Millions

At this time of too-much-enlightenment it is superfluous to say that millions of dollars are annually lost by the wheat producers of the Prairie Provinces by being compelled to sell at an inopportune time through the established private agencies.

Power of expression, which is independence and freedom for the individual producer, cannot be gained through local voluntary and general compulsory selling agencies, which are but expedients and cannot result in permanency. There is a compelling force due to the continued processes of change, calling the producers of the world to a "Declaration of Independence."

It is not unkind of governments of essentially agricultural Provinces to lend a helping hand in this undertaking, but it is imperative that producers assume the fullest responsibility for their own actions. To this end it becomes necessary to secure some unbiased expert advice along real co-operative marketing lines.

Obviously, the producers must undertake this preliminary work themselves, and this may be accomplished with comparative ease through our own organization because for these purposes organizations are undertaken.

Mr. Aaron Sapiro, counsel for the Californian Fruit Producers, who recently inspired the apple growers of British Columbia to a healthy start in co-operative

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The Provincial Secretary's Page

Information for Officers and Members.

Special Fund Passes the $1,000 Mark

Locals Respond in increasing Numbers to Appeal of the Annual Convention

Contributions to the special fund for the wiping out of the deficit incurred during the year 1921, have been more numerous during the past two weeks than in any previous period since the appeal to the membership in the Locals and the Constituency and District Associations was made by the Annual Convention. One of the Locals, Science Mound, has followed its first contribution by a second. The number of U. F. W. A. Locals contributing is again notably large.

Receipts since the last issue of "The U. F. A." went to press are acknowledged below:

Previously acknowledged	$ 775.00
U. F. W. A. No. 249	10.00
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Science Mound No. 1087	2.00
Crestar No. 927	8.50
Benton Valley, U. F. W. A. No. [illegible]	10.00
Rising Sun, U. F. W. A. No. 11	5.00
Harmattan No. 1091	10.00
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Conroy No. 436	15.00
Eckiloon No. 27	15.00
Wide Awake No. 290	7.00
Rockwood No. 982	10.00
Sexsmith No. 204	6.00
Plainview No. 1119	10.00
Louise Lake No. 521	5.00
J. A. Wallace, Alberta (Life mem.)	2.00
Notre Dame, U. F. W. A.	5.50
Science Mound No. 1087 (second contribution)	2.00
Beatons No. 539	21.00
Atlee No. 664	10.00
Milterfield No. 237	5.00
Wilson, U. F. W. A.	5.00
Erskine No. 957	8.00
Gleichen U. F. W. A. No. 181	15.50
Reydale Juniors No. 47	5.10
Cherry Grove U. F. W. A. No. 120	5.00
Golden No. 642	50.50
Donnelly No. 285	5.00
Gwynne No. 15	11.00
Alhambra No. 280	5.50
Burnside No. 968	10.00
Big Spring No. 214	5.00
Sedalia No. 326	10.00
John Jaers No. 258	10.70
Energetic U. F. W. A. No. 3	2.50
Buffalo No. 443	5.00
Round Lake No. 284	10.00
Beddington	28.10
Waskatenau No. 185	10.00
Elk Point No. 561	5.00
Lone Butte U. F. W. A. No. 476	5.00
Pleasington No. 886	7.00
Stratton No. 17	5.00
Bowell No. 218	10.00
Pleasant Valley U. F. W. A. No. 86	6.50
Total	$1,155.80

PROHIBITION DEBATE

Prohibition was the subject of a debate at a recent meeting of the Willow Hollow Local, the judges awarding the decision to the negative speakers. A program of dialogues, readings and musical selections and dancing completed a very enjoyable session.

TOTAL BUSINESS OF $57,000

It was decided by a recent meeting of U. F. A. members in the Waskatenau district to incorporate the Waskatenau District Co-operative Association of the U. F. A. Limited, to continue the co-operative livestock shipping business which has been carried on for some years under the direction of R. C. New, who acted as shipping agent. From the beginning of 1920 until January 31, 1922, business amounting to $57,000 had been transacted, 155 farmers having made shipments.

SEED GRAIN RATE

The attention of Local Secretaries is called to the following regulations governing the shipment of seed grain under the special seed grain rates.

The railway schedule reads as follows:

"Receiving agents will not apply the rates named in Section Three unless under the following conditions: (a) Between stations in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta.

"A countersigned certificate must be produced, signed by the secretary of the Provincial Farmers' Association, also by the Local secretary and the consignee, with complete information filled in. Carload shipments for distribution to a number of farmers may be consigned to the secretary of a U. F. A. Local, who will present countersigned certificates to cover the entire carload."

The essential things to remember are:

1. The arrangement is for seed only, not for any other purpose.
2. It is designed to restrict the special rate to farmers sowing grain.
3. It is designed to exclude any one shipping grain to resell, whether he calls himself a farmer or a dealer.
4. Group shipments in which the freight on a carload is shared among the farmers are expected to be handled by the Local secretary who presents certificates covering the whole quantity.

The responsibility for seeing that these certificates are issued only to bona fide applicants is placed upon the Local secretary.

Secretaries should realize that this reduced rate is one of the benefits secured through the efforts of the organized farmers, which saves the farmers of Alberta thousands of dollars every year. The saving goes direct to the farmers themselves and it means more to them than the entire cost of running the U. F. A. organization.

SHOULD NON-FARMERS BE ADMITTED?

Numerous inquiries on the subject of the admission of non-farmers to membership in the U.F.A. have been raised from time to time. In view of this the following bulletin, which has been issued to Locals, may be of interest to the membership:

How far is it wise to admit outside people, that is, people not directly interested in farming, into membership? In this connection one thing must be kept in mind. The United Farmers of Alberta is essentially an Association of farmers, and was organized to promote the interests of farmers, and this must be the touchstone in deciding every question of membership.

The first consideration in every individual case must be whether or not the person in question is in sympathy with the ideals of the Association. There are no doubt many non-farming people outside our Association, who, if admitted would be a source of strength. There are others whose admission would be detrimental, owing to the fact that their own private interests conflict with those of the Association. It is necessary, therefore, in deciding these questions, that the character, business connections, and sympathies of each individual applicant should be taken into full consideration. Mere friendship should certainly not be a deciding factor if our Locals are to be the power for good in their own communities that they might be.

It is sometimes pointed out in reply to this question that bankers, lawyers, merchants or other professional and business Associations would not admit farmers to membership. Why, then, should farmers admit them to their trade or professional association? Some Locals find that the presence of outsiders handicaps free discussion of the farmers' problems. However, this matter is entirely in the hands of the Locals, and must be left to their decision, but they would in all cases do well to keep the above considerations in mind. A small membership committee to decide upon the standing of candidates for admission before being admitted would be a good feature.

The Constitution has now been amended whereby the first five charter members of a Local must be "resident farmers." There is now, therefore, no provision whereby non-farmers can become members of the U.F.A. except on the vote of a Local, and the Local after all should be the best judge as to whether the applicant, whether a farmer or not, would make a good U.F.A member.

Drought Relief Act to Be Repealed

New Legislation for Voluntary Adjustment of Debts Applies to Whole Province

Legislation to repeal the Drought Area Relief Act was introduced in the Alberta Legislature on April 11th by Hon. J. R. Brownlee, Attorney General.

The old act will cease to be operative on June 1st, when it will be replaced by a new measure, "The Debt Adjustment Act." This act is divided into two parts. The first provides for the voluntary adjustment of debts throughout the Province. The second part contains compulsory features, and is applicable only to the old relief area, or such area as may be determined by order-in-council.

The vital difference between the old act and the new is that judicial courts are given the final word, if settlement be not otherwise effected, whereas under the old act the Director was supreme. Thus, although the Director still has wide powers, the act is a step towards a return to the regular court procedure.

Compulsory Powers

The section applying to the whole of Alberta provides that on application being made in behalf of a resident of the Province to the "Director" appointed under the act, the Director shall confer with and advise the resident or his creditor and shall endeavor to bring about an amicable settlement without unnecessary recourse to legal proceedings. The Director may summon witnesses on oath and require them to produce documents.

The second part of the act, applying to the old drought area, provides that any farmer may apply to come under the act, and the Director may grant the application, though a judge may overrule the order, and the Director himself may withdraw the order if the farmer is believed to have fraudulent designs. The whole or any part of the Province may

(Continued on page 11)

THE SIRE—
First Essential to Success!

THE British Market is the governing factor in establishing world prices for dairy products. Competition for supremacy in this market has increased in intensity year by year, and already New Zealand has captured the lead in cheese which Canada at one time enjoyed.

If Canada is to win back her position in the British cheese market and if she is to supply more than 3% of Britain's butter imports, not only must the quality of the product be improved through more efficient methods of manufacturing, but the Canadian dairyman must undertake to increase the volume of his output. Canadian farmers can only succeed in this task on the basis of lower production costs.

How Canada Stands

If the Dominion is to continue to compete with success in the markets of importing countries, the average flow of milk per cow must show a marked increase. The country with the highest yield per cow is in a preferred position on the British Market. Consider, then, these average milk yields:—

Holland	7,585	lbs. milk per cow
Switzerland	6,950	" " "
Denmark	5,666	" " "
Canada (less than)	4,000	" " "

Increased output at lower cost per cow presents the problem of immediately raising the average production of milk in the dairy herds of Canada through:

1. *Attention to Improved Breeding;*
2. *To More Efficient Methods of Feeding;*
3. *To the Weeding Out of Poor Producing Animals.*

The first problem demands immediate action as to the kind of bull siring the dairy stock, for it has been proved that heavy milk-producing characteristics are transmitted *through the sire more than through the dam.*

The sire is the foundation of the dairy herd. A poorly bred bull is at the root of practically every failure in the dairy industry. He sires a deficit in every female calf, turning grain and roughage into financial loss. He is a robber!

A Safe Investment

But the good pure bred bull is a safe investment. He guarantees a generally higher standard of production in the next generation. Most of his first daughters will be superior in milk flow to their dams. The offspring of the best cows in the herd will be outstanding in milk yield. With each succeeding generation the ability to produce large quantities of milk will become more and more a characteristic of the herd.

Logically, then, the first step towards increased production is the elimination of the scrub bull and the purchase or hire of a bull of finest value. This means the best bull your business can afford, one whose female line shows evidences of superior performance at the pail.

The Unprofitable Servant

The bull is the main factor in the herd, but his ability to beget high producing milkers depends in a marked degree upon the class of females in the herd. Therefore, the next step will be the weeding out of low producing animals, the culling out of unpromising calves and the retention only of those females which show in a marked degree the stamp of their sire. Mate this good stock to better bulls.

Performance at the pail is the test that determines whether the cow is an asset or a liability. The average production counts for more than the high production of one or two individuals. *Keep a record of production for every cow* and practise strict weeding on that basis. One year of recording will provide a fairly true index to the value of your whole herd.

IMPORTANT

After April 1st, 1923, all Canadian Butter and Cheese for export will be graded according to quality and appearance. This grading will be made on all shipments. The result should be a marked improvement in the Quality and Uniformity of Canadian Products. The Dominion Department of Agriculture is undertaking this forward step in an effort to improve the standing of our products on the British market.

Remove the Feed Handicap

Breeding and weeding, even though practised in the extreme, do not overcome the handicap of poor feeding. Grow the kind of forage crops known to contain milk-making elements. Invest in a silo and make use of its contents winter and summer. Make provision for a plentiful supply of coarse grains. Good producing cows will convert mill-feeds into profit.

The Dominion Department of Agriculture will aid you in getting at the root of your problem. If you do not know where to obtain the services of a good bull, if you want help regarding feeding and recording, write to the Experimental Farm or to the Dominion Live Stock Branch, Ottawa. Your problem will receive instant attention. Write today.

DOMINION DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OTTAWA · · ONTARIO

Minister of Agriculture
Hon. W. R. Motherwell

Deputy Minister
Dr. J. H. Grisdale

The U.F.W.A. and Junior Branch

Some Legal Disabilities of Women

By Geo. H. Ross, K.C.

PART THREE

Homestead Law

Our Federal Government should amend our Dominion Land Act to provide that homesteads and pre-emptions may be taken up in the joint names of the spouses. If a married couple determine to go homesteading, each of them goes forth resolved to devote all his and her time and energy to building up a happy and prosperous home. As the home thus acquired is the result of the joint efforts of both husband and wife the title should be in the name of both.

Under existing law, the husband may make entry for a homestead in his own name. A wife cannot acquire a homestead in her own name. A homestead cannot be acquired in the joint names of husband and wife. This is not as it should be. As the property comprises as much the earnings of the wife as of the husband, the spouses should not only be allowed to take up a homestead in their joint names, but a married man should not be permitted to take one up in his own name; all entries should be in the name of both spouses, and the spouses should be equally interested in the home when it is proved up and title should be in the name of neither alone; it should be in the names of both.

Community Property

About 900 years ago Sweyn, King of Denmark, was taken prisoner by the Vandals. The ladies of Denmark sold their jewels to ransom him. Out of gratitude to the Danish ladies, King Sweyn introduced alimony into Denmark and his son Canute, King of England, introduced it into England. So that for more than one thousand years married women have had a dower interest in their husband's lands. By this law an English lady after the death of her husband is entitled during the rest of her life to the use of one-third of all lands owned by him during his married life.

Alberta is not so generous to her women as Canute was to English women 900 years ago. The widow only has dower in Alberta in the homestead, and she may be deprived of this without any notice to her if she leaves home for anything short of legal cruelty on the part of the husband.

Married women would be much better off if we had community property. In other words the joint earnings of husband and wife should belong, not to the husband alone, but jointly to husband and wife.

1. The husband should be entitled to retain all property that he had before marriage, and all that he may hereafter acquire by gift or descent.

2. The wife should have the same right to retain her separate property for herself.

3. The property which is acquired after marriage as the result of hard work on the part of both of them should not be "his" but should be "theirs".

4. The husband alone should have the right to administer the personal property of the "community" unless he is an habitual drunkard, or for other reason is incompetent. Then the court in its discretion should have the power to make the wife the head of the community. The head of the community should have the right to sell or mortgage the personalty without consulting the other spouse.

5. All realty acquired in the name of the spouse who is not the head of the community should be deemed to belong to that spouse, but all realty acquired in the name of the spouse who is the head of the community should be deemed to be joint acquests of the community if they be not proved to have belonged to one of the consorts previously to the marriage, or to have fallen to him subsequently by succession or other equivalent title.

Liabilities of Community

6. The liabilities of the community should consist:

(a) Of all debts contracted by the head of the community after marriage, except such as are connected with the separate property of one or other of the consorts, and

(b) Of all debts contracted by either spouse for the maintenance of the consorts so long as they live together; the education and support of the children and all other charges of marriage.

7. The community would be dissolved:

(a) By the death of one of the spouses;

(b) By the wife abandoning her husband for reasonable cause, or

(c) By the husband deserting his wife for reasonable cause.

8. Upon the community being dissolved, community property should be equally divided between the consorts. Either consort should have the right to will one-half of the community property.

Possibly in case of separation or divorce, instead of dividing the property equally the courts should have the right to make such disposition of it as should appear just and equitable, having regard to the respective merits of the parties and to the condition in which they will be left by such separation, and to the burden upon the property for the benefit of the children. In the great majority of cases our present laws do not work any practical hardship, as the family is a happy one, and domestic matters work out without serious friction; but there are exceptional cases and the cases are numerous, in which the wife should be protected from a brutal husband. A man takes a pride in acquiring property as a result of his labors. The law should recognize that the wife in looking after the home and performing the services she renders is contributing her share to the joint earnings. In such a case both husband and wife should take greater pride in their work and the home would be the happier for it.

Under our present law, if the wife abandons the home and goes out to work she earns all she earns. If she works with her husband she gets only a living. The tendency of our present law is to break up the home. Community of interests would tend to unify the home.

Should Establish Equality

The law should treat husband and wife on an equality. The courts should grant divorce to a wife on the same terms as to a husband; the husband should be required to provide for his wife even in the case of a void marriage honestly entered into. When husband and wife start out on the journey of married life, the wife should not be handicapped by a Federal law preventing her sharing title to the homestead with her husband and thus requiring her to serve him. Husbands would be more considerate towards their wives if the law would not allow them to make the lives of their wives miserable or drive them from the home without paying them alimony, or dividing up with them the joint earnings.

Cases of gross injustice and hardship are not by any means scarce in Alberta. In England legislation is more advanced in this respect than in Canada; yet Lord Buckmaster, who was a very distinguished lawyer with a wide experience and who is now a member of the Privy Council, our final court of appeal, in advocating a divorce reform law recently said: "If the suffering and wrong now endured by a few only were widespread, it would be easy to get support for reform; but can there be a more bitter censure upon democratic government than that it should fail to redress the grievances of those who are few in number and weak in strength." Lord Buckmaster's remarks apply with greater force to Alberta because our laws in regard to women are not so advanced as the laws of England. We need legislation to remove existing matrimonial inequalities.

The first part of Mr. Ross' article on "Some Legal Disabilities of Women" was published in the issue of March 1st, and the second in the issue of March 15th. The third and concluding part was unavoidably held over from the issue of April 2nd, owing to lack of space.

PARLIAMENT ENQUIRES INTO THE CONDITION OF CANADIAN AGRICULTURE

(Continued from page 1)

a great amount of interest. Ocean space and its cost are of vital importance to the success of this undertaking. Evidence before the Committee reveals the fact that any one may secure space either direct from the Steamship lines or through brokers. If through the latter, a charge of 50 cents per head is made. This includes the securing of the space and also seeing the stock is put on board ship and properly tied up, and that sufficient feed and help is available for the comfort of the stock during the voyage.

"GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENTS"

The manner in which ocean freight rates are set may be of some interest. Representatives of the shipping companies from Montreal admitted that they held what they termed their "regular Tuesday afternoon meetings." These meetings were for the purpose of discussing matters of mutual interest to the steamship lines. Pressed as to what these mutual interests might be, they admitted that rates were perhaps the most important. No minutes of these meetings were kept, it being understood that the decisions were "gentlemen's agreements." Answering the question as to whether these gentlemen's agreements were ever broken, they admitted that they sometimes were, but in that event the other companies were always

notified in advance. Rates on cattle to British ports were as low as $15.00 per head during January. The rate is now $20.00 from Portland. The first sailings from Montreal will be about the middle of May, and the rate now quoted for these sailings is $32.50, with the possibility of a still higher rate in the future.

Questioned as to whether ocean freight rates were based on cost of operations plus a reasonable profit on investment, the witness stated that these were not the only factors taken into consideration. Supply and demand were important, inasmuch as when the demand was brisk higher rates would no doubt be quoted, provided it did not kill the traffic. Here is an instance where a witness under oath admitted that the prime factor in setting a rate was on the basis of "all the traffic will bear," with the further information that in the event of rates coming down so as to be unprofitable, the service would be discontinued.

There is also in existence in New York what is known as the North Atlantic East Bound Freight Conference, also the North Atlantic West Bound Freight Conference. Then again we have the Gulf of Mexico Conference, and also the Pacific Coast Conference. These various Conferences are mainly for the purpose of arriving at a mutual understanding as to rates. It is reasonable to assume that similar organizations exist throughout the world, each with a well defined sphere of operation, and organized for the purpose of eliminating competition in ocean rates. It will be interesting to the Canadian people to know that the Canadian Government Merchant Marine have a representative sitting in conference with representatives of the other Steamship Lines at the regular Tuesday afternoon meetings in Montreal and adhering to the gentlemen's agreement.

CHEAPER IN BRITAIN

Evidence of a peculiar nature came before the Committee relative to ocean rates on flour. Flour ground in American mills is carried at a rate from 2 to 3 cents per 100 lbs. less than Canadian ground flour from United States Atlantic ports. Steamships of British or Canadian register sailing from these ports make the same discrimination against Canadian ground flour. The same witness stated that our Canadian flour is sold in Great Britain at a lower price than at home. On page 310 of the printed report of the Committee, you will find the following:

"Q. You sell flour in the Old Country at a lower price than here?

"A. Absolutely. Relatively in this way. We will say that it costs 50 cents to make a barrel of flour if we are running full time. If we are only running half time, we will say it costs $1.00 a barrel to make. Our domestic trade will only run us we will say 50 per cent of our time, then there is 50 per cent of our time we will be idle, and if we were idle that time, it costs us $1.00 a barrel, and we would have to sell it on that basis, so if we can run the balance of our time on anything at all, it is all that much money to the good for our overhead costs."

WHO PAYS LOSS ON WILTSHIRE SIDES?

Flour is not the only farm product that is sold in the United Kingdom at a lower price than at home. Farmers will remember that a year ago a Bill was

(Continued on page 11)

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Duncan Marshall and His 160-Acre Farm

By R.E.S.

Hon. Duncan Marshall, who holds the position of Commissioner of Agriculture for the Dominion, is reported to have stated in a recent interview that he would be glad to see legislation introduced to limit all farms in Western Canada to 160 acres. In the article on this page Mr. Marshall's views are critically examined by an Alberta farmer of long experience.

The statement reported to have been made by Duncan Marshall, Commissioner of Agriculture for the Dominion, to the effect that he would favor an Act prohibiting a farmer from undertaking to operate on more than 160 acres, which has caused so much comment in the press of Eastern Canada, occasions little surprise among Alberta people who know the facility with which he can jump from one extreme to the opposite, and make a plausible speech in support of whatever position he happens to hold at the time he is talking.

Mr. Marshall's Alberta acquaintances are wondering where he obtained his information regarding the sufficiency of 160 acres as a means of maintaining a family and so educating his children as to prepare them for the battle of life. We are in honor bound to admit at this point that the ex-Minister made no reference to a farmer's educating his children, and if this was not included in his scheme of things, we are prepared to stand corrected.

Precept and Practice.

One fact connected with Mr. Marshall's Alberta career stands out prominently, namely, that in his twelve years' experience as a farmer in this Province, he never even attempted to limit himself to a farm of one quarter section, or to restrict himself to an acreage that he now says he would be willing to see other men compelled by law to be confined to. The Alberta ex-Minister's farm was situated in one of the most productive districts in the Province, yet he deemed it necessary to spread himself out over 480 acres.

Mr. Marshall even hands a left-handed slam at his own Minister, who has been and I believe is still operating 480 acres.

When Mr. Marshall started out as Minister of Agriculture for Alberta, one of his first importants acts was to establish a number of farms for the purpose of demonstrating that money could be made at farming in this Province. For that reason they were called Demonstration Farms. How many of these were limited to 160 acres? Not one. The smallest consisted of 250 acres, and the remainder ranged from 280 to 640 acres.

Demonstrations Which Prove Nothing.

The reports of Mr. Marshall's former department show that money can be lost in operating farms of all of the sizes named, but, after 12 years of demonstrating he has left no information to show whether a farm should be either larger or smaller in order to yield a profit in Alberta.

We are all able to point to individual farmers who have made money on a farm of one or more of the sizes named, and also to point to a few who have "kept their heads above water" on farms of only 160 acres, but in every case the location of the farms, the quality of the soil and the judgment displayed in management have had more to do with the success obtained than the size of the farms.

The prairie farmers of Alberta who have to summer-fallow every second or at most every third year, would like to be informed how the Commissioner would divide up his 160 acre farm in order to keep a standard farming outfit busy throughout the working season, provide hay for his working outfit and hay and pasture for the milch cows that he enjoins us all to keep; they would also like to know if he would place the same limitations on those who are operating from 25 to 40 miles out, as he does to those who are closer in; and they would specially like to be advised as to how he chanced to acquire such pronounced convictions on this subject after he himself had quit farming.

The fact of the matter is that the whole argument in favor of the 160 acre farm is based on the assumption that on such a farm hired help can be eliminated. When anything is to be done that the farmer is unable to do alone, he can requisition his wife or children for the service. The argument is good as far as it goes but on too many farms it resolves itself into a practice of getting more work for less money out of one's family than can be got out of hired help; and it violates the rule of how to keep the boys on the farm, a subject upon which Mr. Marshall was wont to wax eloquent.

Ignores Need for Economic Reforms.

The disappointing thing about the speech of the Commissioner of Agriculture is that nowhere does he intimate that the farmer is suffering from bad economic conditions or faulty guidance on the part of those to whom he is supposed to look for advice; nowhere does he assert that the fruits of the farmer's labor are absorbed by excessive transportation charges which it might require considerable courage on the part of Cabinet Ministers to interfere with. Nowhere does he claim that what the farmer buys is costing him too much because of exorbitant customs duties; he adopts the old practice of informing his city audience that the farmer is the cause of his own troubles, that he tries to do more than he can do properly, and that he should be distrained therefore. He talks of wheat mining as being the only cause of the farmer's troubles, yet ignores the fact that, throughout the West, there are thousands of farmers who are practising diversified farming, but who are nevertheless in practically as difficult straits as are those who keep little stock outside their work animals.

Advice Which Has Proved Costly.

Many of these are farmers whose financial troubles began at the time when, as Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Marshall urged us all not to dispose of our cattle because of the threatened feed shortage; when he proclaimed that Europe was so badly in need of cattle that prices could not fall within the next ten years; that representatives of his Department would locate the feed, the railways would transport it at reduced rates, and the banks supply the money with which to buy it; that because of the certainty of an enormous European demand for live cattle in the future, the farmers would be justified in assuming large liabilities in order to keep their herds intact. At the end of the season, many of us found that by following his advice we had incurred obligations far in excess of the value of the animals we had saved; we found that instead of prices remaining sufficiently high for ten years to enable us to pay out, they were cut in two within as many months, and have gone lower since.

We have no intention of blaming Mr. Marshall for the severity of the winter that occasioned such an enormous demand for feed, nor for the inability of Europeans to buy our cattle, no matter how badly they needed them; but if he was unable to foresee these things with all the facilities at his command for gathering information, how does he expect the inhabitants of the rural districts to do so? But having followed his advice, and having incurred the heavy obligations with which we are now struggling, as a result of it, we expect something more sympathetic and closer to the facts from the Commissioner of Agriculture than the charge that our troubles and those of the country are due to wheat mining and to owning more land than we can cultivate properly; we expect something suggestive of less antagonism than the statement that he would favor legislation limiting us to 160 acres.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 3)

labor. In the unlikely event of this effort succeeding the result would be a calamity alike to the farmers and to labor.

In their conflict with the interests which have a stranglehold on the economic life of North America these two great groups of the people must of necessity co-operate. The manner of this co-operation can only be determined by experiment and time. Neither group can afford to sacrifice its identity, for the problems of the land and the problems of city labor are superficially so distinct that it is not always easy for one group to understand the problems of the other. But co-operate they must, or both suffer defeat.

Agriculture will find salvation, not in a reduction of the standard of life of the working people of the cities, but in economic reforms of a fundamental character. It is only the powerful interests which are opposed to both groups, and the sycophantic shallow-pates who take their cue from those interests, who would seek to create ill-feeling between the farmers and city labor. The inflation of wages is something of a myth, but there is a serious deflation of agricultural values, of which neither rural nor urban consumers are reaping the benefit in correspondingly reduced prices.

From the policy of the deflation initiated from Wall Street and Brussels, the farmers, labor, and the great body of the public have suffered in common—the farmers by the ruinous impoverishment of their industry; labor by the widespread evil of unemployment.

* * *

The result of the Moose Jaw Federal by-election brings cold comfort to those

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afflictions, and then say whether these people are lacking in courage . . . . We are told that one of the solutions to remedy our adverse conditions is to reduce our standard of living and to do as our forefathers did in the old pioneering days. It is even suggested that the peasant type of settler should be brought in from Europe. Since when has the British stock become so weak?"

G. G. Coade, Mayfield.

"The banks say to the farmer when he has his wheat produced: You had better sell your wheat and pay off your loan. If the banks would call the manufacturer to sell off his stock of manufactured goods for whatever the market would stand, we would be able to get the goods at a price we could afford to pay. I do not suppose the banks will do this because in this country the banks are controlled by the same class of people that control our manufacturing establishments. I am rather afraid that the same set of men are controlling this Government, and if this is the case, we shall not get much relief. . . . . We produced in Alberta this year more than the people of Canada can eat. You must find some place to put that produce, and until you do that, why lay the stress on immigration of farmers? . . . . The only large market outside our own to which we have free access is that of Great Britain, and I believe that the Minister of Finance should give Great Britain free access to our market in exchange. That would help the farming industry in this country more than all the other legislation I can think of that could be brought down at this time."

D. W. Warner, Strathcona

"I say to my hon. friends, with the best intentions, that I believe they have gone too far in telling of the difficulties in the West. There is no doubt that these difficulties exist, but they are not to be overcome in a day, in a year, or perhaps even in my lifetime. . . . . It will take a lot of money in salaries for immigration agents to offset what we have heard in this House during the last few days. . . . . I am ready to support the Government in passing this item if they can prove to the House that they are going to pay competent agents with the money. I know we have to have these immigrants. I know the resources are here for them to develop. Our debts are already made and we are a party to them. . . . . I have taken a different view from what some of our members have. I want to hold the Government responsible for ameliorating conditions as far as humanly possible, so that we may be in the best possible condition to help Canada get back on her feet again."

L. H. Jeffrey, Lethbridge.

"I regret to say that most of the complaints from this side of the House are well founded, but at the same time we must ask ourselves . . . . Where in the world can we go and not find similar or even worse conditions? I believe that people are looking for an immigration policy. . . . . Speaking for myself and for the district in which I live, I must say that we are very anxious to have immigrants. Nothing would please me better than to see the Acting Minister of Immigration set down 2,000 good reliable farmers in my district of Lethbridge tomorrow. . . . . I believe that we can give every man who wants to come in and farm a good opportunity to make a fair, square living for himself and his family. . . . . As to this immigration policy, I do not like it . . . . I am doubtful, even if this Canadian Colonization Association should be all right, whether it is going to obtain the results we have in view."

H. E. Spencer, Battle River.

"As to the few hon. members on this side of the House who have painted a more or less rosy picture, I know full well that if they dared they would use much blacker colors. . . . . I believe in stating facts. Should we not first of all try and find out why we are losing population so rapidly? I am very much in favor of immigration of the right sort, which should be entirely voluntary but selected. (but) what would we think of a farmer who is a horse dealer as well, who buys horses in great numbers and turns them into a large paddock and as time goes on finds he is losing his horses, and instead of trying to discover the gate that happened to be left open, simply buys more and more horses to keep up the number? . . . . Yet Canada is losing immigrants today at the rate of ten thousand a month, and at the same time she is leaving the gate open and spending more and more money to buy fresh horses to put into the paddock. I cannot, therefore, support the estimates as they are presented. I think it is far more important to alter the economic conditions in the West. . . . . To enable us to keep our own experienced men, who have been with us ten or fifteen or twenty years on the farm, than to let them go out and fill their places with green and untried men."

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Easy Now to Rid Your Farm of Gophers

Wonderful Discovery by Noted Scientist Kills Every Gopher Within a Week's Time.

Gophers cost farmers over two hundred millions of dollars a year, through the destruction of crops and damage to land. Farmers need no longer suffer this loss because they can now kill off all the gophers on their farms in less than a week's time. This is possible through the remarkable discovery of Dr. E. R. Alexander, a chemist who has perfected a virus which kills gophers and rats as though by magic. This product is not a poison—it can be eaten by human beings or any animal on the farm as safely as their regular food, but means quick, sure death to gophers and can be safely used in places where it is dangerous to put out poison.

This wonderful gopher virus, which is known as Alexander Gopher-Killer, is used in addition to strychnine poison. The strychnine is put in the gopher tunnels in the usual manner, using cut sweet potatoes for bait. This kills part of the gophers, but every farmer knows that poison won't kill them all and the gophers that are left alive multiply again very rapidly. By the use of the virus, however, all the gophers are killed which cannot be reached by poison. The disease is pathogenic—gophers only can catch it.

The virus is merely mixed with bread or meat scraps and placed where gophers, rats or mice can get to it. Within a few hours after a gopher has eaten Alexander Virus Gopher-Killer he gets a high fever and suffers a terrible thirst. He leaves his pits and nesting holes and goes to the open field in search of pure air and running water.

It is a scientific fact that one gopher affects others and soon the whole colony dies. And though this virus is absolutely deadly to gophers—chickens, hogs, cattle, or any farm animal can eat it and not be affected at all—therefore it can be spread around anywhere without the slightest danger.

So confident is Dr. Alexander that his combination strychnine and virus Gopher-Killer will kill every gopher on your farm in less than a week's time that he offers to send, as an introductory offer, a regular $4.00 supply of strychnine and virus for only $2.00. Give it according to directions, and if at the end of a week's time you are able to discover any gophers, rats or mice on your farm, your money will be refunded. A big Toronto bank guarantees that Dr. Alexander is reliable and will do as he says.

Send No Money—Just your name and address to E. R. Alexander, Alexander Laboratories, 412 Terminal, Toronto, Canada, and the big supply of strychnine and virus will be mailed at once on the guarantee that if not absolutely satisfactory your money will be returned without question. Write today and stop your gopher losses now.—Advt.

BLACK LEG 100% PROTECTION FOR LIFE from one vaccination with Cutter's Liquid or Solid Blackleg Aggressin, Also ... If Cutter's Aggressin is unobtainable locally, write

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N.B.—Old Style Powder and Pill Vaccines still made for those who prefer them.

Please mention "The U.F.A."

C.C.A. Asks for Long Term Loan Plan

Every Province in the Dominion with the exception of British Columbia was represented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Council of Agriculture held in Toronto during the last week in March. The proposal to divide the Council into Eastern and Western was rejected. The United Farmers of Quebec and the Maritime United Farmers, which includes the organizations of the three Maritime Provinces, were admitted to membership. Conferences of two or more Associations holding membership in the Council may be held provided due notice is sent to the Secretary, in order that a member of the Executive may be present.

The Council urged the Government of Canada to introduce at the present session of Parliament, a measure to provide for an adequate system of long term farm loans.

The Executive of each of the Provincial Associations was invited to prepare a proposed revision of the Farmers' Platform, the drafts to be submitted to a committee representative of all the Provinces (appointed by the Executives) whose duty it shall be to co-ordinate the various proposals and report back to the Council. The calling at an early date of a conference of the different taxing authorities in the Dominion for the purpose of defining their respective spheres of tax jurisdiction, was urged.

The Council decided not to take part in election activities, a resolution on this matter being adopted in the following form:

"Whereas, the objects of the Canadian Council of Agriculture are fully defined in the constitution as revised and adopted on July 16, 1919, as follows:

"'(a) To encourage the farm population of the Dominion to organize for the study of educational, economic, social and political problems having a bearing on the happiness and material prosperity of the people.

"'(b) To constitute in itself a medium through which the various organizations in membership may act collectively where their common interests are concerned.

"'(c) To establish a bureau for the collecting and disseminating of statistics and other information bearing on rural welfare.

"'(d) To provide unity of action on matters of common interest to the organizations in membership and to formulate demands for legislation and present the same to the Parliament of Canada.

"'(e) To investigate methods of taxation for providing national revenue and disseminate information thus secured through farmers' organizations.'

"Therefore be it resolved that the Council shall in future not take part in the conduct of any campaign for the election of candidate for Parliament, and further it is recognized that the associations in the various Provinces of Canada are fully competent if they so desire to deal with all matters relating to the nomination and election of candidates for Parliament."

Officers for 1923.

Officers for 1923 were elected as follows: President, W. A. Amos, president of the U.F.O.; vice-president, C. H. Burnell, president of the U.F.M.; executive, J. A. Maharg, G. F. Chipman, H. W. Wood, C. Rice-Jones, A. J. M. Poole.

U. F. A. representatives at the meeting were: H. W. Wood, President of the Council; H. E. G. H. Scholefield, George Bevington, H. C. McDaniel, C. H. Harris and Mrs. M. L. Sears.

FARMERS SEEK NEW LAND CONTRACTS WITH CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

(Continued from page 5)

"11. Several thousand acres in this District, formerly cultivated, will be idle this summer—a breeding place for every noxious weed that grows, and a costly menace to all those who wish to continue operations. The Alberta Government has been powerless in the past to control weeds, and will continue so in the future. At the end of the contract period the value of the land will be hopelessly decreased.

"12. Farmers are sacrificing everything possible—life insurance funds, children's labor, outside holdings of property, thrift funds, in order to keep on farming.

"13. The total amount paid by the farmer for a half section of land at $17 per acre is about $5,432 for principal and $3,766 for interest, a total of about $9,198, or $27.50 per acre. The interest and taxes amount to about $1,432 for principal and $1,366 for interest; the average crop for the past two years has been about six bushels of wheat per acre on the land owned by each individual farmer. About one half of this is required to pay interest and taxes.

"14. The fact that men have been working in other industries all winter, wherever work can be gotten, in order to earn sufficient to provide food and clothing and fuel for their dependents.

"In view of all these facts the farmers believe it to be in the best interest of the community, including the interests of the Canadian Pacific railway, to readjust these land contracts upon a basis that will give the farmers something to work for.

"We recommend the cancellation of all interest payments for a period of the whole life of the contract to bona fide farmers settled on the land, excepting such payments of principal as are in arrears. All payments of principal in arrears to bear six per cent interest until paid.

"And Further Recommend for present Relief, and in order to stop the wholesale migration from this district of settlers who cannot be wholly replaced, that the Canadian Pacific Railway announce immediately the cancellation of interest charges for three years.

"We believe that the method of charging interest upon arrears of principal only, is the method followed by the Dominion Government in selling pre-emptions to settlers, and is the only method which will allow the average farmer of this district to complete his payments. This method has been in operation in this Province for the past ten years and has given satisfaction.

"All of which is respectfully submitted by a committee duly appointed by the farmers residing in Hussar and District, Wintering Hills District and Wayne District.

"Signed,
J. P. Kelly,
D. C. McColl,
D. E. Riley,
Jens N. Hvam, Wayne,
C. T. Armstrong."

WANT BALLOT ON ALL SIDES LIQUOR QUESTION.

At a recent meeting of the Morrin Local, the following resolution was carried unanimously:

"Whereas, the U.F.A. claims to represent the true spirit of democracy, and to uphold the claims of free speech, and

"Whereas, we believe that every individual has the right to express his views whether by the ballot or in any other manner, in accordance with the law of the country, and

"Whereas, we believe the action of the Big Valley Local in passing a resolution using the words, 'that if a vote be taken this year, it be confined strictly to the question of prohibition or the open bar' is contrary to the motto of the U.F.A., 'Equal Rights for All, Special Privileges to None,' therefore,

"Be it resolved that we, the members of the Morrin U.F.A., condemn the action of the Big Valley Local, and that we endorse any method that will give the rights of free speech and ballot on all sides of the liquor or any other question, and further,

"Be it resolved that in the event of a plebiscite being taken a questionnaire be submitted to the electors, that will give them an opportunity to express their views on the various aspects of the liquor question."

C. P. R. SURPLUS $27,000,000

The Canadian Pacific Railway last year had a surplus of $27,312,781. The net earnings of the railway and the Lake steamships were $58,164,421, offset against which are the fixed charges which bring the net surplus to the figure named above.

CANADA'S GROSS REVENUE

Hon. W. S. Fielding, Minister of Finance for Canada, estimates that the gross revenue of the Dominion for the present fiscal year will be approximately $400,000,000, as compared with $381,000,000 in 1922. It is estimated that the customs revenue will be $115,000,000 as against Mr. Fielding's estimate in last year's budget of $105,000,000.

LOSS BY EMIGRATION

From June 30th, 1901, to March, 1921, Canada received 3,577,351 immigrants. According to the official census returns for the periods 1901 to 1911 and 1911 to 1921, the population of the Dominion increased during the twenty years by 3,417,626. This was 159,725 less than the total immigration into Canada.

MOOSE JAW BY-ELECTION

E. N. Hopkins, Progressive, defeated W. E. Knowles, the Government candidate, in the by-election in the Federal constituency of Moose Jaw held a few days ago. As this issue goes to press the complete returns have not been received, but it is anticipated that Hopkins' majority will be in excess of 1,000.

POULTRY AND EGGS

PURE-BRED MAMMOTH BRONZE TUR-key eggs from large, healthy hens and 40 lb. tom. April, 40c each; May 1st to 15th, 30c; after May 15th, 20c. Orders booked as received. Mrs. W. Hawkins, Stroma, Alta.

PURE MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEYS. 40 lb. parent stock. Toms $5.00, hens $3.00. Hillsdale Ranch, Nanton, Alta.

EGGS FOR SETTING FROM R.C. BROWN Leghorns, $1.50 for 15. A. McCreadie, Erskine, Alta.

FOR SALE—BRONZE TURKEY EGGS from imported stock. 50c each, or 40c for 50 or more. Mrs. C. R. Lissemer, Didsbury, Alta.

BABY CHICKS FROM QUEEN HATCHERY —Now booking orders for baby chicks: Barred Rocks, Rhode Island Reds, Black Minorcas, Anconas and White Leghorns. Heavy egg strain. Safe arrival any point Alberta. Write for large catalog. Queen Hatchery, 58 Cordova W., Vancouver, B. C.

ROSE-COMB REDS, GOVERNMENT AP-proved, bred to lay. Fifteen trapnested eggs, $3.00. Chicks, 35c. Lyle Poultry Farm, Gleichen, Alta.

BARRED ROCK HATCHING EGGS FROM my record of performance pen, mated to two full brothers, pedigreed, whose dam laid 271 eggs, and the lowest producer for five generations back was 194 eggs. Price $2.00. Also a few settings from a pen of ten hens with records of from 176 to 198. Mated to a cockerel whose dam laid 268 eggs. Price $4.00. T. T. Clyde, 10011-101st Ave., Edmonton.

BARRED ROCK EGGS, SELECTED WIN-ter layers, and Manitoba Agricultural College cockerels of over 200 egg stock, 15 eggs $1.50; 100 for $8.00. Kiterly Bros., Throne, Alberta.

DARK BARRED ROCK EGGS, BRED from prize winners, $3.00 setting. Pekin duck eggs from champion winners, Edmonton, $2.00 setting. Buff Cochin Bantams, 25c per egg. A. E. Simpkins, Lethbridge, Alta.

BETTER BABY CHICKS, SAFE HATCH-ing eggs. Our well known Leghorns, Wyandottes, Rocks, giving customers 175-200 eggs each, in nine months laying. Columbia Poultry Ranch, Stevenston, B. C.

FERRIS 300 EGG STRAIN WHITE LEG-horns and single comb Rhode Island Reds; 15 eggs for $1.50; 50 for $4.50; 100 for $12.00; infertiles replaced. Jos. T. Robson, Stroma, Alta.

WHITE WYANDOTTES, INTERNATIONAL contests winning strain. Best in the West. $3.00 setting. John Watson, Crossdale Poultry Yards, Edmonton.

ROSE COMB WHITE LEGHORN EGGS FOR hatching. 15, $1.25; 100, $5.00. John Tough, Islay, Alta.

REGISTERED ROSE COMB WHITE WYAN-dottes, including winners Manitoba egg contest 1921, all headed by rooster from College Queen, 268 eggs. Baby chicks: April, $25 for 25; May, $20 for 25; June, $15 for 25. Eggs: April, $3 for 15; May, $2.50 for 15; June $1.50 for 15. Pure bronze turkeys, beautiful stock. April poults, $1.25 each; eggs 50c each. May poults $1 each; eggs 40c each; June poults 50c each; eggs 30c each. All clear eggs replaced if returned after 10th day testing. Roosters 2 for $4.; Gobblers 15 lbs. (late) $5. Satisfaction assured. Reductions for large orders. Mrs. Thos. E. Robinson, Hardisty, Alta. Phone 109.

BRED TO LAY BUFF ORPINGTONS. HAVE been under Government supervision for 5 years. Eggs from selected pen of real producers, $1.50 for 15. Mrs. P. C. Loree, Nanton, Alta.

HEAVY LAYING WHITE AND BARRED Rocks — Better stock — Better value — White Rocks, "Lady Ella," (252 eggs) strain; Barred Rocks, "Lady Ada" (198 eggs) strain. Eggs, 15 for $3.00; 30 for $5.00. Both light and dark matings in Barred Rocks. Satisfaction guaranteed. H. Higginbotham, 1431 Third St. N.W., Calgary.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS are inserted in this section for three cents per word per insertion. Count each initial as a full word, also count each set of four figures as a full word, as for example, "A. J. Smith has 2,000 bushels of Oats for sale" contains 10 words. Be sure to give your correct name and address. Do not have any replies sent to U.F.A. Central Office. Name and address will be counted as part of the advertisement and must be paid for at the same rate. All advertisements will be classified under the heading which applies most nearly to the article advertised. Orders for classified advertisements must be accompanied by cash, and must reach us at least eight days in advance of dates of publication, which are the 1st and 15th of each month. Cancellations must also reach us eight days in advance.

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THE COLDBELT POULTRY COURSE OF-fers a practical guide to success in poultry. It's practical knowledge and up-to-date methods that make poultry pay big profits. Free to all who enroll now, 25 baby chicks, from proven laying strain. For full information write W. R. Fraser, 2134 Seventeenth avenue west, Calgary.

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U. F. A. LOCALS AND ASSOCIATIONS. Write me for the lowest prices possible on coal car lots. J. O. Hates, Wayne, Alta.

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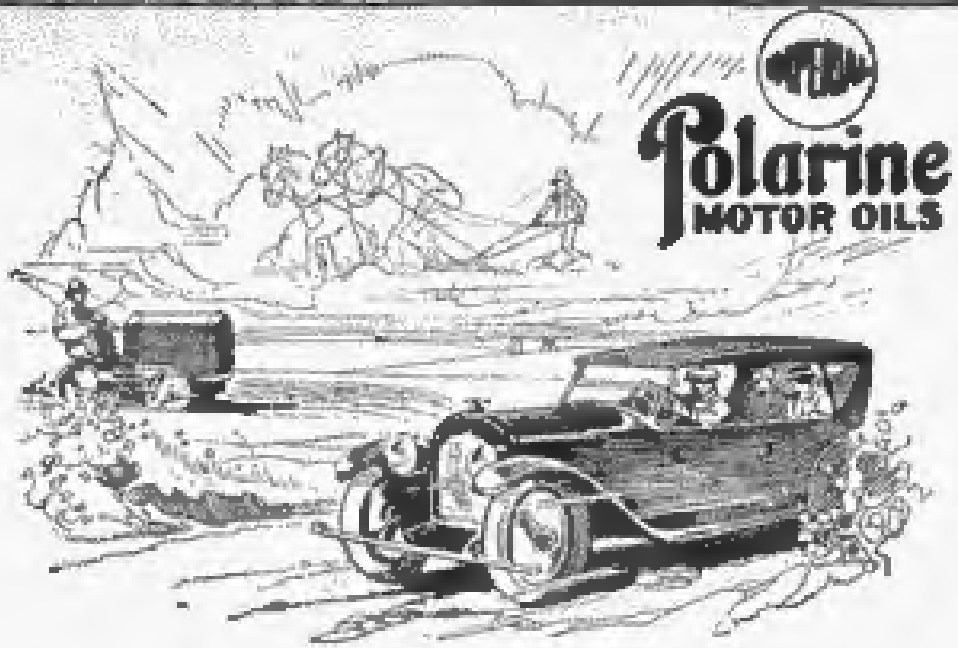

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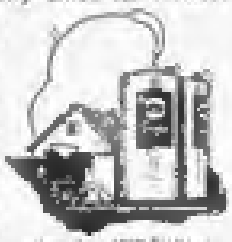

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